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RCE/2826 #

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| REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA). | Application Number | 09/982,144 |
| | Filing Date | October 19, 2001 |
| | First Named Inventor | Hideo NAKAGAWA et al. |
| | Group Art Unit | 2826 |
| | Examiner Name | Leonardo Andujar |
| | Attorney Docket Number | 740819-673 |

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.
NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

a. ☐ Previously submitted

i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).

ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____

iii. ☐ Other _____

b. ☒ Enclosed

i. ☒ Preliminary Amendment/Reply

ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)

iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

iv. ☐ Submission of Formal Drawings

v. ☒ Petition for TWO-month Extension of Time

2. **Miscellaneous**

a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(l) required)

b. ☐ Other _____

3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 19-2380

i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)

ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)

iii. ☐ Other _____

b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$**1,190.00** enclosed

c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED | | | |
|---|----------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Name (Print/Type) | Donald R. Studebaker | Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) | 32,815 |
| Signature | | Date | November 3, 2003 |

| CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION [37 CFR 1.8(a)] | |
|--|-------------------|
| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO at _____, on November 3, 2003. | |
| Signature: | |
| Name: | Deborah Movahhedi |

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Hideo NAKAGAWA et al.

Application No. 09/982,144

Filed: October 19, 2001

For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE HAVING
METAL INTERCONNECTS (AS
AMENDED)



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Group Art Unit: 2826

Examiner: Leonardo Andujar

Confirmation No. 7544

Date: November 3, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION
[37 CFR 1.8(a)]

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Signature:

Name:

Deborah Movahhedi
DEBORAH MOVAHHEDI

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop RCE

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed June 3, 2003, please consider the amendments and remarks in connection with the above-identified application as follows.

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